

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 00088 172234Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-14 L-03  
NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SS-15  
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R 172113Z JAN 78  
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6797  
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

UNCLAS TORONTO 0088

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SENV, PGOV, SOPN, CA  
SUBJ: NEWSPAPER COMMENTS ON ATIKOKAN

REF: WINNIPEG 006

1. IN TWO ARTICLES ON PAGE 10 JANUARY 14, THE TORONTO STAR  
CITED U.S. CONCERNS REGARDING THE PLANNED ONTARIO HYDRO  
GENERATING STATION AT ATIKOKAN.

2. THE FIRST ARTICLE DISCUSSED THE VISIT TO KENORA THE WEEK  
OF JAN. 16 OF THE ONTARIO ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE NORTHERN  
ENVIRONMENT UNDER MR. JUSTICE PATRICK HARTT. THE STAFF-  
WRITTEN ARTICLE NOTED THAT THE MEETINGS WILL HAVE NOT ONLY  
THE USUAL TRAVELLING BAND OF CANADIAN REPORTERS BUT A  
TELEVISION CREW FROM THE AMERICAN NETWORK, NBC, BECAUSE OF  
U.S. INTEREST IN THE HYDRO ATIKOKAN PLANT. THE ARTICLE  
NOTED THAT THE U.S. "PLANS DEMAND THAT HYDRO SPEND UP TO  
DOLS 70 MILLION ON POLLUTION CONTROL DEVICES, HINTING THAT  
WHILE IT HAS NO TREATY RIGHT TO BACK UP THE DEMAND, IT  
ISN'T IN CANADA'S INTEREST TO PROVOKE A ROW." THE  
ARTICLE CONTINUED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT WANTS A  
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MORATORIUM UNTIL THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE PLANT  
ON A NORTHEASTERN MINNESOTA PARK CAN BE ASSESSED. THE  
ARTICLE ALSO STATED THAT TREATY NO. 3 GROUP, REPRESENT-  
ING WHITEDOG AND GRASSY NARROWS INDIAN RESERVES, HAS  
ARGUED THAT THE PLANT MUST BE PUT OFF UNTIL EXPERTS  
DETERMINE WHETHER "ACID RAIN" FROM ITS EMISSIONS WILL  
KILL AREA LAKES.

2. THE SECOND, STAFF-WRITTEN ARTICLE, HEADLINED "U.S. ACCUSED OF 'FORCING' DISPUTE OVER ONTARIO POWER PLANT" CITED UNNAMED CANADIANS OFFICIALS AS SAYING THAT "THE UNITED STATES SEEMS DETERMINE TO 'FORCE AN INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE' OVER POSSIBLE POLLUTION FROM AN ONTARIO POWER PLANT." NOTING U.S. CLAIMS THAT THE ATIKOKAN PLANT WILL DUMP SULPHUR DIOXIDE INTO NEIGHBORING MINNESOTA'S "CLEAN AIR", THE ARTICLE CONTINUED CITING CANADIAN OFFICIALS AS CLAIMING THAT THEY HAVE DATA SHOWING "OBVIOUSLY AND CLEARLY THAT THERE WILL BE NO INJURIOUS EFFECTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT. THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM." THE ARTICLE CONTINUED THAT THE U.S. HAS INSISTED INSTALLATION OF DOLS 70 MILLION WORTH OF SCRUBBERS IN ORDER TO AVOID UPSETTING THE HIGH STANDARDS FOR CLEAN AIR ESTABLISHED BY THE STATE OF MINNESOTA FOR ITS NORTHERN BOUNDARY AREA. THE AREA CONCLUDED THAT THE ISSUE MAY WIND UP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION.

4. COPIES OF THE ARTICLES BEING POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES.  
DIGGINS

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** NEWSPAPERS  
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